

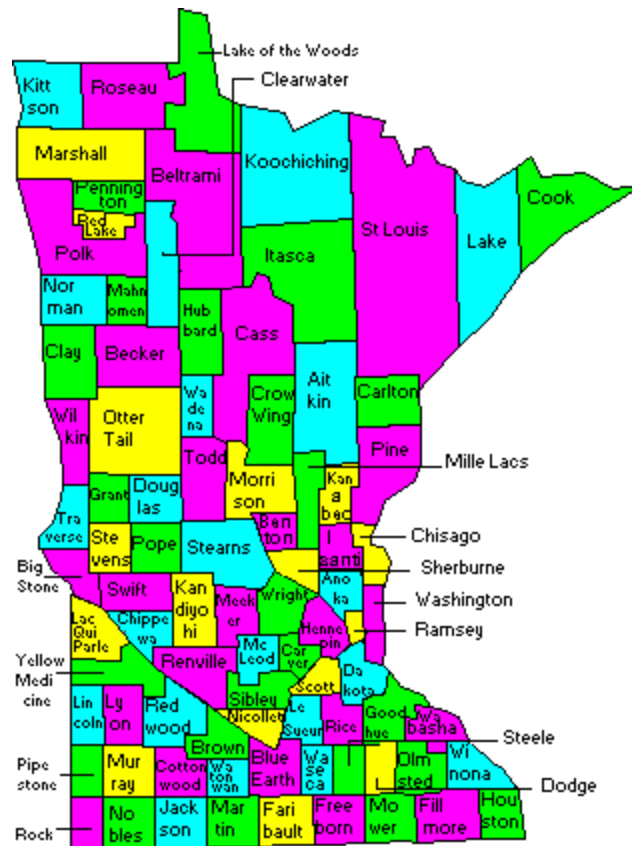
# Office of National Drug Control Policy

## Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

### State of Minnesota

#### Profile of Drug Indicators

August 2000



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

## **Minnesota**

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

### **Demographics<sup>1</sup>**

- Population: 4,375,099 (1990 Census); 4,775,508 (1999 estimate)
- Race/Ethnicity: 94.4% white; 2.2% African American; 1.1% American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut; 1.8% Asian or Pacific Islander; 1.2% Hispanic

### **Politics<sup>2</sup>**

- Governor: Jesse Ventura
- Lt. Governor: Mae Schunk
- Attorney General: Mike Hatch
- Secretary of State: Mary Kiffmeyer
- U.S. Senators: Paul Wellstone (D), Rodney Grams (R)
- U.S. Representative (Districts 1-8): Gil Gutknecht, David Minge, Jim Ramstad, Bruce F. Vento, Martin Olav Sabo, William Luther, Collin C. Peterson, James L. Oberstar.

### **Programs/Initiatives**

- FY 1999 Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grantees awarded by ONDCP in conjunction with Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP):<sup>3</sup>
  - \$100,000 to Hennepin County Community Health Department, Minneapolis
  - \$100,000 to Minneapolis American Indian Center, Minneapolis
- Executive Office of Weed and Seed<sup>4</sup>
  - In 1996, the State of Minnesota established its own Weed and Seed initiative. This is the first initiative in the country to be state-funded.
  - The following locations have been officially recognized as Weed and Seed sites in Minnesota: Moorhead, Duluth, Minneapolis/Northside, Minneapolis/Central, Minneapolis/Phillips, Burnsville, St. Paul/ECON (East Consolidated), St. Paul, and St. Paul/Summit University
- State Agencies Focused on Effectiveness (SAFE)<sup>5</sup>

Governor Ventura created this initiative in September of 1999, and since then, eleven State and Federal agencies have become involved. The mission of this program is to create a strategic plan for Minnesota's Criminal Justice System and to ensure that the State's crime, violence, and drug abuse prevention efforts are coordinated.

### **Crime and Drug-Related Crime**

- There were 22,004 narcotic arrests in Minnesota in 1998. This is a 15% increase over the number of such arrests in 1997. 14,228 of these arrests were for marijuana. 85% of those arrested were males and 73% were white. Narcotic arrests include all arrests for the violation of state and local ordinances, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs.<sup>6</sup>
- In 1998, 4,969 juveniles were arrested for drug abuse violations in Minnesota.<sup>7</sup>

#### Arrests in Minnesota, 1998

Offense	Juveniles	Total
Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter	26	149
Forcible Rape	211	952
Robbery	513	1,255
Aggravated Assault	1,343	4,774
Burglary	1,823	4,081
Larceny-theft	12,567	24,601
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,699	3,234
Arson	234	342
Drug Abuse Violations	4,969	22,004
Driving Under the Influence	977	44,078
Liquor Laws	11,528	35,951

- 64% of the narcotic arrests in 1998 were for possession.<sup>8</sup>

#### Arrests for Sale/Possession of Narcotics, Minnesota, 1997-98

Type of Drug	Sale		Possession	
	1997	1998	1997	1998
Opium/Cocaine	490	627	2,867	3,757
Marijuana	4,336	5,587	7,977	8,641
Synthetic	23	10	282	306
Other	1,895	1,666	1,202	1,410
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,774</b>	<b>7,890</b>	<b>12,328</b>	<b>14,114</b>

- In Minneapolis during 1999, 60.4% of the 841 adult male arrestees sampled, and 57.4% of the 162 adult female arrestees sampled tested positive for drugs at the time of their arrests.<sup>9</sup>

#### Percent Positive for Drugs, By Offense Category, Minneapolis, 1999

Offense Category	Cocaine		Marijuana		Metham.		Any Drug	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Violent	19.8	7.1	49.2	28.6	0.8	0.0	57.9	35.7
Property	35.6	45.8	48.9	29.2	0.7	0.0	69.6	70.8
Drug	33.3	52.9	42.6	17.6	0.9	11.8	64.8	70.6
Sales	33.3	100.0	33.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	55.6	100.0
Possession	33.0	50.0	43.0	18.8	1.0	6.3	65.0	68.8
Prostitution	75.0	71.4	0.0	28.6	0.0	0.0	75.0	71.4
Other	27.6	31.3	44.2	28.1	1.0	2.1	59.4	52.1

#### Drugs<sup>10</sup>

- Cocaine and Crack  
According to Minnesota law enforcement sources, drug entrepreneurs from other areas of the country (Florida, Texas, Arizona, and California) continue to be present

in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area. Gang involvement has also been noted as an important feature of cocaine trafficking and distribution.

➤ Heroin

In many cities surrounding the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, the shift toward sniffing heroin, as opposed to injecting the drug, has brought about new, younger heroin users. Various types of heroin have been made available in this area, including Mexican brown powder, black tar, and white powder. Packages containing this drug are most often shipped from Southeast Asia to destinations within the Southeast Asian community found in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area.

➤ Marijuana

Minneapolis teenagers have indicated that marijuana is readily available and affordable, and in many instances, easier to acquire than alcohol. The teens also stated that marijuana cigarettes are sometimes “dipped in” or laced with other drugs and substances including formaldehyde. They also mentioned “honey-dipped” blunts. The honey in these instances is said to enhance the high. Many school-based health professionals state that many adolescents see little harm associated with marijuana. Marijuana has increasingly been used as a delivery medium for other psychoactive drugs such as crack and PCP. Marijuana joints containing crack are sometimes known as “fireweed,” and those containing PCP have been called “happy stick.”

➤ Stimulants

The abuse of methamphetamine by young people in Minnesota is a problem of growing proportion and concern. For adolescent girls there is an attraction to methamphetamine because it can act as an appetite suppressant and facilitate weight loss. Methamphetamine abuse seems to be increasing in rural areas as well. All law enforcement agencies reported escalating levels of methamphetamine availability and trafficking throughout the State. The majority of Minnesota’s meth supply originates in Mexico and is distributed by Mexican-owned and –operated crime organizations. Small meth labs are also being discovered in remote, rural areas of Minnesota.

➤ Hallucinogens

Among adolescents in Minnesota, hallucinogens remain popular drugs of abuse. Ketamine, an injectable drug used most often as a tranquilizer by veterinarians, appeared for the first time as a drug of abuse in Minnesota in 1997. This drug is most often converted into a white powder and snorted.

### Juveniles<sup>11</sup>

- Since 1992, marijuana use among Minnesota students surveyed has increased steadily for all grades surveyed. Despite this, marijuana use rates have been lower in Minnesota than nationally.

Percent Reporting Marijuana Use in Past 12 Months, By Grade, 1998

6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
4.1	24.1	30.3

- The use of LSD and other hallucinogens in the past 12 months by these students has increased slightly for Minnesota 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders since 1992. Cocaine/Crack use has also increased between 1995 and 1998 for these Minnesota students.

- Amphetamine and other stimulant use among these students has declined.
- 10.1% of 9<sup>th</sup> graders surveyed in 1998 reported using stimulants within the past 12 months.

Percent of Students Reporting Use of Specific Drug in Past 12 Months, 1998

Grade	Inhalants	LSD	Stimulants	Cocaine	Barbiturates	Opiates
<b>6</b>	5.9	---	---	---	---	---
<b>9</b>	6.5	6.0	10.1	5.5	4.5	4.0
<b>12</b>	3.2	7.5	8.9	5.7	3.1	2.9

---Data not available

- The majority of students surveyed reported obtaining their drug(s) from friends or someone else that they knew. Many reported getting their drug(s) from parties.

### Enforcement

- In 1998, there were 11,433 full-time law enforcement employees in Minnesota.<sup>12</sup>

Full-time Law Enforcement Employees, Minnesota, 1998

Officers		Civilians		Total
Male	Female	Male	Female	Employees
6,968	728	1,513	2,224	11,433

- The Minnesota State Patrol is made up of 771 total personnel (536 uniformed officers and 235 civilian employees).<sup>13</sup>
- Since April of 1999, over 1,000 law enforcement officers and emergency medical personnel throughout Minnesota have been trained on how to identify methamphetamine labs.<sup>14</sup>

### Trafficking and Seizures

- Seizures of cocaine by law enforcement agencies have increased statewide, but have been variable on a local level.<sup>15</sup>
- Cocaine seizures by local law enforcement agencies have remained at high levels in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area.<sup>16</sup>
- In 1998, there were a total of 1,625,282 marijuana plants eradicated in Minnesota.<sup>17</sup>

Marijuana Plants Eradicated and Seized, Minnesota, 1998

<u>Outdoor Operations</u>			<u>Indoor Operations</u>		Total Plants Eradicated
Plots Eradicated	Cultivated Plants Eradicated	Ditchweed Eradicated	Grows Seized	Plants Eradicated	
72	38,272	1,583,286	20	3,724	1,625,282

- Through December 6, 1999 there were 97 methamphetamine labs dismantled by the DEA in Minnesota. This is an increase over the 46 dismantled in 1998, and 22 dismantled in 1997.<sup>18</sup>

### Courts

- As of March 31, 2000, there was one drug court in operating in Minnesota. This drug court is in Minneapolis and has been in existence for over two years.<sup>19</sup>
- During FY98, 39.0% of those offenders who received a Federal sentence had committed a drug offense.<sup>20</sup>
- 33.5% of these drug offenses were related to crack cocaine, 29.2% to powder cocaine, 15.0% to marijuana, 21.4% to methamphetamine, and 0.7% were related to some other type of drug(s).<sup>21</sup>
- Of the total number of offenders receiving a Federal sentence, 37.8% had committed a drug trafficking offense.<sup>22</sup>
- 92.6% of the offenders convicted of drug trafficking were sentenced to a prison term.<sup>23</sup>

### Corrections

- As of June 2000, the Minnesota Department of Corrections population totaled 6,218. 94% of those incarcerated were males.<sup>24</sup>
- 903, or 15.2%, of those incarcerated in January of 2000 (most recent data available for this information) were incarcerated for drug offenses.<sup>25</sup>
- The Minnesota Department of Corrections consists of 11 adult facilities (including contract and work release facilities) and 2 juvenile facilities.<sup>26</sup>
- At the end of 1999 (December 31), Minnesota's adult probation population totaled 104,615. At this same time, the adult parole population was 3,151.<sup>27</sup>

### Treatment<sup>28</sup>

- In the first half of 1999, there were 1,961 people admitted to treatment in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area with marijuana as their primary drug of abuse.

Characteristics of Persons Admitted to Treatment in Minn./St. Paul Area, 1<sup>st</sup> Half 1999

	Marijuana	Cocaine	Metham.	Heroin
<b>Gender</b>				
% Male	75.4	67.6	70.3	64.7
% Female	24.6	32.4	29.7	35.3
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>				
% White	79.0	37.3	96.7	46.8
% Afr. Amer.	11.5	54.4	1.3	45.6
% Hispanic	3.3	3.4	0.7	1.9
% Amer. Indian	4.4	3.2	---	2.5
% Asian	0.5	0.1	---	---
<b>Age</b>				
% under 18	4.7	2.1	4.0	0.5
% age 18-25	11.7	9.0	33.1	19.0
% age 26-34	24.1	37.2	32.6	33.2
% age 35+	59.6	51.7	30.3	47.3
<b>Total Admissions</b>	<b>1,961</b>	<b>1,175</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>184</b>

## Consequences of Use<sup>29</sup>

- In the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, cocaine remained the drug most often involved in hospital emergencies. In 1998 the estimated number of cocaine mentions in Emergency Departments (ED) in this area totaled 773.

Estimated Number of ED Mentions, by Drug, Minneapolis/St. Paul Area, 1998

Cocaine	Heroin	Marijuana	Meth	LSD
773	177	491	112	51

- Cocaine-related deaths in this area declined from 58 in 1997, to 44 in 1998 to 17 in the first half of 1999.
- There were 17 opiate-related deaths in the first half of 1999, compared with 33 in 1997 and 38 in 1998.
- In the first half of 1999, there were 2 methamphetamine-related deaths, and in 1998 there were 8 methamphetamine-related deaths in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area.
- Emergency departments in both Minneapolis and St. Paul report treating one to five GHB-related overdoses per month.

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>

<sup>2</sup> Minnesota Web site: <http://www.state.mn.us>

<sup>3</sup> Drug-Free Communities Grantees:

<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/prevent/drugfree/1999/chart99.html>

<sup>4</sup> Executive Office of Weed and Seed Web site: <http://www.weedseed.org>

<sup>5</sup> SAFE, Minnesota Web site: <http://www.dps.state.mn.us/safe/index.html>

<sup>6</sup> Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, *Minnesota Crime Information, 1998*:

<http://www.dps.state.mn.us/bca/CJIS/Documents/crime98/>

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> National Institute of Justice, *1999 Annual Report on Drug Use Among Adult and Juvenile Arrestees*, July 2000: <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/99adltfind.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> Community Epidemiology Work Group, *Epidemiologic Trends in Drug Abuse*, January 1999:

<http://www.cdmgroup.com/cewg>

<sup>11</sup> Minnesota Department of Child, Family, and Learning, *The 1998 Minnesota Student Survey*:

<http://www.cfl.state.mn.us/trends.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> FBI, *Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Reports, 1998*, October 1999:

<http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/98cius.htm>

<sup>13</sup> Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Minnesota State Patrol: <http://www.dps.state.mn.us/patrol/>

<sup>14</sup> Hazelden Institute, *Drug Abuse Trends: Minneapolis/St. Paul*, December 1999

<sup>15</sup> Hazelden Institute, *Drug Abuse Trends: Minneapolis/St. Paul*, December 1999

<sup>16</sup> Community Epidemiology Work Group, *Epidemiologic Trends in Drug Abuse*, January 1999:

<http://www.cdmgroup.com/cewg>

<sup>17</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, 1998, 1999*:

<http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/1995/pdft439.pdf>

<sup>18</sup> Hazelden Institute, *Drug Abuse Trends: Minneapolis/St. Paul*, December 1999

<sup>19</sup> Office of Justice Programs Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project, *Summary of Drug Court Activity by State and County*, March 31, 2000

<sup>20</sup> United States Sentencing Commission: <http://www.ussc.gov/judpack/1998/mn98.pdf>

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- <sup>21</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>22</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>23</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>24</sup> Minnesota Department of Corrections, Institution Status Population Report, January-June 2000:  
<http://www.corr.state.mn.us/pdf/Population.PDF>
- <sup>25</sup> Minnesota Department of Corrections Web site: <http://www.corr.state.mn.us>
- <sup>26</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>27</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Probation and Parole in 1999*, July 2000:  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/pp99pr.pdf>
- <sup>28</sup> Hazelden Institute, *Drug Abuse Trends: Minneapolis/St. Paul*, December 1999
- <sup>29</sup> Ibid.



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